

The **Parks and Recreation Board** met Monday, February 23, 2004 at 4:30 pm in the Board of Works Room at West Lafayette City Hall.

Present at said meeting were Paula Woods, Karen Springer, Garnet Peck, Leon Trachtman and Attorney John Sorensen. Council Members Ann Hunt, Patti O'Callaghan, Gil Satterly and Matt Plomin were also present. Joe Payne, Pennie Ainsworth, Chris Foley, Brenda Lorenz, Brian Tunis and Lee Booth represented the Department. Absent were Park Board members Mike Dana and Council Member Gerry Keen and Cheryl Kolb from the Department.

Also present were Frank Donaldson, Doug Anderson and Jane Ness representing the Downtown Business Center.

Paula convened the Board at 4:30 pm.

The first item on the agenda was the approval of the minutes of the January 26th meeting. After noting a correction to the spelling of Lynn Layden's name and the corrected date of March 29th for the School Board presentation to the community, Karen motioned that the minutes be approved. Leon seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Superintendent – Joe reported on the following:

- Noted the Council Report was included in the mailing.
- Showed pictures of the new Tool Cat clearing trails.

Assistant Superintendent – Pennie reported on the following:

- The tenth Global Fest will be held on September 3rd and 4th. The first committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 10th at 3 pm at Morton.
- Reported that new playground equipment for Happy Hollow Park age 2-5 year olds will be delivered tomorrow.

Parks – Lee reported on the following:

- Noted the playground and trail inspections
- Still preparing equipment for summer
- Constructing a new storage room in the maintenance shop
- Replaced some bad valves and inlet lines at the pool
- Completed another 'Morton List'
- Cleaning trails and parks of trash and debris from winter storms

Recreation – Chris reported on the following:

- The Riverside Skating Center held its first annual Dare to Bear on Friday, February 6th. 143 skaters participated. Thanked Papa Johns for providing free pizzas. Chris commented that the event was suggested by the staff and all staff members working participated and did a great job. Also thanked Ann Hunt for providing nice photographs of the event.
- Skating attendance to date is 11,975. The final day for ice skating is scheduled for Sunday, March 7th. The closing date is weather permitting. The warm, wet spring weather makes maintaining ice a challenge. Some compressor work will be preformed on the Turbo Chiller once the ice season ends.

- Currently working on the spring inline skating schedule
- We are upgrading our office server and related software
- The grade school basketball programs have been completed. She thanked the School Corporation for their cooperation in housing those programs.

Morton Center – Brenda reported on the following:

- As of Friday, there have been 1,532 registrations compared to 1,648 registrations last year at this time, a decrease of 7%. In January the decrease we reported at that time was 12% so we are making headway on equaling or surpassing last year's totals.
- Bette Goodrich will have an art show for her students' work beginning March 4 and running through March 25. An opening reception will be held from 7-9 pm on Thursday, March 4 in room 106.
- Brenda will be attending the Linwood School Summer Fun Information Fair Thursday evening to help promote our summer programs.
- The memorial plaque for Mildred R. Taylor has been installed outside of room 202 and looks very nice.
- New signage has been added at the entrance to Morton's parking lot. There is now a sign that states entrance at the entry and on the back of that a sign that states One Way Do Not Enter. This has been done to try and keep people from exiting at the entrance of the lot. She thanked the Street Department for making and installing of those signs.

Beautification & Stewardship – Brian reported on the following:

- Continue to work on old storm damage and brush removal mainly at Happy Hollow entrance area
- Distributed copies of 'Wednesday in the Wilds' program held at Lilly Nature Center. Thanked Joan Mohr Samuels for putting the flyer together and for coordinating the committee. Having a National Trails Day event on June 2nd, will be discussing the landscape around the Wabash pond and the trail system.
- He is going to be involved with the 2004 Envirothon – it is a program for high school students for environmental competition to be held on April 21st for our region.
- Helping to sponsor the next master naturalist program that will take place for eight consecutive Tuesdays from September 7 until October 26th.
- Worked cooperatively with the Library to obtain a Releaf Grant with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources. The West Lafayette Library did receive that grant. With that grant the Library and Nature Center will receive some brochures to pass out for urban forestry related reference material. Total amount was \$1,878 for reference material and that was matched with another \$9,800 miscellaneous. Only ten grants were awarded in the state.
- Held a new training session for the Nature Center volunteers, they start in March
- Bev Shaw and Brian gave a talk at the Indiana Park and Recreation Association annual conference.
- The Tree Fund has held a new member callout
- Has tentatively scheduled Sunday, April 25th for Earth Day (garlic mustard pull) and Saturday, May 1st for Arbor Day.
- April 3rd have scenic by-way clean up with Boilermaker Volunteer Network
- On Saturday, August 28th have 'Detrash the Wabash'

Old Business

A. Festival

Joe passed around a copy of the proposed ordinance prepared by the city attorney for discussion at the pre-council meeting this Thursday. It modifies the existing ordinance – it states:

Sec. 24 – 1.40. Beer and intoxicating beverages.

- (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), no person shall bring into, have, keep, carry, serve or drink beer or any intoxicating beverage within the parks. The term beer or intoxicating beverage shall include any drink containing any alcohol whatsoever.
- (b) The West Lafayette Board of Parks and Recreation may permit the sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages in West Lafayette city parks at community festivals, at such locations and under such conditions as the Board may approve.

These are proposed changes to allow the Board to make further decisions if they so desire in relation to intoxicating beverages. It doesn't mandate anything; it allows the Board flexibility to make the decision which the Board does not have at this time.

Joe presented a copy of a letter concerning 'Dancing in the Streets' from Frank Donaldson and Doug Anderson, representing the Downtown Business Center for Board and staff to review. They were present to answer questions. Joe commented that some of the items mentioned in the letter are not a Park Board matter. Frank and Doug explained the plans for use of the area for Dancing in the Streets. Joe mentioned that fencing in Tapawingo Park would be done to the river to prevent folks from going around under the bridge and into the low lands at Tapawingo. After much discussion Joe summarized that the Park Board still does not have any problem with the proposal to the extent that they can make decisions.

B. Redevelopment Commission Request

Joe gave a little more detailed follow up on what was discussed on a spread sheet in October. The Redevelopment Commission has published notices of public hearings concerning additional appropriations for TIF districts. The first proposal for an additional appropriation is for \$220,000 out of the Levee Village TIF for North Chauncey street scape improvements to sidewalk, curbs, curb ramps, lights and landscaping located along North Chauncey at the Library, Morton Center and the library garage to improve the area as a festival/community space and to put overhead lines underground. The other proposal is for the KCB TIF District for an additional appropriation of \$355,000 for Cumberland Park and Northwest Greenway Trailhead Park improvements for water, electric and sewer hook-ups for shelters, a new restroom near the north parking lot, parking improvements in cooperation with the school corporation at the south parking lot, and lights for the Cohen softball fields. There would also be additional funds for landscaping around the shelters, along the berms along the trail at the maintenance barn, and at the new retention pond. There will be a Redevelopment Commission meeting at 4 pm on Friday to consider the additional appropriations.

C. Lincoln Park

New Chauncey Housing Incorporated would like to donate a 50' x 130' lot on Lincoln Street to the Park Board. Depending upon the final size of the lot and actual design of the park to be done this spring, it may be necessary to develop the park over a couple of years. It is anticipated that the development of the park would be done using CDBG funding. The amount requested for 2004-2005 is \$50,000. The Park Board will be officially asked to accept the proposed park in the future.

D. Dubois Park

We are working with Congdon Engineering on Phase II. Pennie passed around a drawing showing the lay out of the play area for the 5 – 12 year olds. Play equipment we are ordering is a mid-apollo, Biggo swings and a climbing rock. A shelter is also planned. As soon as we get the quotes in and get the PO's signed, the project can start.

E. Parking Lot Construction Facility Use & Reciprocal Parking Agreement

The School Board is holding a special meeting tomorrow to discuss the parking lot expansion agreement. The agreement states that the School Board pays for their expansion on their property and the Park Board pay for theirs. Joe mentioned that Milestone is holding the price of their bid they presented last year for the parking lot project since they will do a lot of work in the area for our Department.

New Business

A. Soccer Agreement

Pennie presented a use agreement from the Greater Lafayette Recreation Soccer Alliance for use of the soccer fields in Cumberland Park from March 22 until May 23. Practices are Monday through Friday from 5:30 until dusk and games are mostly on Saturdays from 8 am until 4 pm. We have received a Certificate of Insurance. Joe asked that they stay off the new grass. Karen motioned to approve the Soccer Use Agreement, Garnet second the motion, and the motion carried.

West Lafayette School Board

Karen reported that soon you will see Red Devil pole banners on school property, intended for all building and athletic fields. They are intended be up year-around to promote school pride and identify school properties. They have also put up new signage to help those coming in from out of town to find the athletic and school facilities. At the last meeting the Board approved West Lafayette Athletic Memorial Walk that will be at the athletic complex. "Buy a Brick" - People will be invited to purchase an engraved brick to be installed in a grassy area between the main football complex entrance and main concession area. The intent is to raise money for several scholarships funds as well as for the athletic department. When you purchase a hundred dollar brick you can specify where you want the funds to go. This will be an on going memorial walk. The Happy Hollow Task Force continues to meet; its seventh meeting will be this Thursday. They will start analyzing the four options; two for Happy Hollow and two for Burtsfield. Karen thanked Chris and all the task force members for their involvement on the Task Force.

Wabash River Parkway Commission

Paula reported that a canoe camp is going to be established at Ross Hills Park this summer. The scenic by-way application has not been resubmitted yet; it will be resubmitted soon with all the suggestions.

Other**Park Foundation**

Joe reported that he is trying to set up a meeting date for the Foundation.

Meeting Date

The next Park Board meeting will be changed to Monday, March 22 to accommodate Board members schedules.

Purchase Orders

N/A

Pay Claims

Leon motioned that claims be paid. Garnet seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Adjourn

There being no further business, Karen motioned the meeting adjourned at 6:05 pm. Leon seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Presiding Officer

Secretary

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